



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, III CORPS AND FORT HOOD
1001 761ST TANK BATTALION AVENUE
FORT HOOD, TEXAS 76544-5000

AFZF-SAFE

29 SEP 06

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Winter Safety Campaign 2006


1. Identifying seasonal risks and implementing a combination of both new and proven risk-management techniques will ensure our winter safety programs are in place before the cold weather arrives. By war-gaming seasonal risks now we will ensure the success of our winter safety campaign. With III Corps units dispersed geographically, seasonal hazards vary at each installation, training area, deployed site, and can change rapidly.
2. The winter season provides unique risks to Soldiers, family members and civilians while also providing numerous opportunities for extended weekend and holiday off-duty activities. During the winter months, we usually see an increase in adverse weather vehicle accidents and injuries – most of which are preventable. Leaders need to be involved with evaluating their Soldiers' off-duty plans and activities. Leaders must also ensure their Soldier's skills, use of safety equipment and seat belts (no matter the environment), and the risks involved are taken into consideration in any off-duty activity. Soldiers and their leaders must understand the risk assessment process and the adverse impact of alcohol use during these activities.
3. The use of the Army Safety Management Information System (ASMIS-2) Risk Assessment tool is required when Soldiers are planning travel beyond the local area. Leaders should consider the use of this tool when local area weather forecasts winter weather alerts or conditions which increase travel risks. Leaders must acclimatize Soldiers to working, training and fighting in colder and wetter conditions to avoid cold-related casualties. Soldiers will be trained on cold-weather injury prevention before the potential for cold-weather injury occurs.
4. Road conditions during the winter months can change very quickly, and can be deadly for unsuspecting drivers. Heavy rain, snow, black ice, freezing rain, muddy roads and fog are responsible for Soldier deaths and injuries on roadways every year. All drivers must be prepared for possible changes in road conditions to avoid injuring themselves and others. In many cases, simply reducing speed will reduce risks and prevent accidents. Soldiers must be aware of the hazardous road conditions they can expect while driving in their area of operations, as well as how to access up-to-date information on road conditions. Leaders must know the activities and road conditions when approving out-of-the area Soldier travel.

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5. The purpose of this campaign is to save lives, prevent injuries and protect equipment. Leaders must have a direct effect on their Soldiers' actions. Junior leaders must be trained to execute the safety mission. Four key elements must be involved in this process: adequate training, risk management, planning and preparation and concerned leaders taking complete ownership of their Soldiers' safety. Demand that your leaders vigorously execute these responsibilities and empower first-line leaders by providing strong command support and emphasis for this campaign.

6. Accident and injury prevention must be central to all our activities, both on- and off-duty. We can neither afford nor accept the loss of a single Soldier, civilian employee or family member to a preventable accident. Being prepared for winter hazards now can make this a safe and enjoyable winter as we continue to execute with excellence.



RAYMOND T. ODIERNO
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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